

# City Steam

## Brewery Café

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### **Testimony Before the General Law Committee House Bill 6405 An Act Concerning Barroom Partitions**

Good afternoon Senator Doyle, Representative Baram and Members of the General Law Committee. My name is Jay DuMond and I am here today to testify in support of House Bill 6405 An Act Concerning Barroom Partitions.

As a long time Connecticut Restaurateur, I support the changes proposed in House Bill 6405 as I believe the current laws to be antiquated in the changing marketplace. I have been a backer or permittee in over 15 restaurant liquor licenses and as the designer of all these restaurant spaces, I have not had the flexibility to design a space that would be the most functional for the customer and the operator.

I site the following examples, currently:

1. We have had a comedy club for over 25 years at City Steam Brewery Café and because we have a six seat bar which patrons can watch the comedy show from, we have not been able to have a section of the club open to 18-20 year olds even though we have a separate area far from the bar which is also in a raised area.
2. The trend throughout the country is to have open spaces when designing a restaurant environment. In these spaces the customer can see the bar, the kitchen and the dining room from one vantage point. This creates high energy level that customers enjoy.

This bill would give the liquor commission the ability to make exceptions to those permittees seeking a more open floor plan in their restaurant.

Owner, designer and/or operator since 1971:

Last National Bank  
Panchos Dos  
Waterfall Tavern  
Brown Thomson and Company  
Oasis  
Pancho's  
City Steam  
Blue Plate Kitchen

Chalupas  
The Brownstone  
36 Lewis Street  
Pancho Mc Gee's  
BT II  
Hop Brook  
BT III

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